

May 7, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Sentencing challenges before Michigan Supreme Court in oral arguments tomorrow

[Press release](#)

Detroit Free Press: Key court hearing date set in Bashara murder case

"Bob Bashara, the Grosse Pointe Park man accused in his wife's death, is scheduled to have a preliminary exam in August. A scheduling conference was held today in Detroit's 36th District Court, and the preliminary exam was set for Aug. 19."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

MLive.com: Preliminary exam for Bob Bashara murder trial postponed

[Full story](#)

Battle Creek Enquirer: Beardslee won't seek Circuit Court seat

"One of four people who have announced they are seeking a seat on the Calhoun County Circuit Court bench has withdrawn. Paul Beardslee said Monday he has decided to withdraw for personal reasons.... He was one of four people who publicly acknowledge he was asking Gov. Rick Snyder to appoint him to the seat being vacated by Judge Allen Garbrecht, who said he will retire at the end of May."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: New hours effective June 1 for the Wayne County Probate Court

Effective June 1, 2013, the Wayne County Probate Court's hours of operation will be 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday."

[Full story](#)

Flint Journal: Chenelle Harkless named Flint District Judge Herman Marable's Student of the Year

"Chenelle Harkless, a junior at Flint's Northwestern High School, has been named Flint District Judge Herman Marable's Student of the Year. Harkless, 16, is looking forward to a career as an attorney or judge and was awarded the honor based on her application essay."

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: Grand Rapids decriminalization of marijuana stands - Kent County prosecutor loses

"A Kent County judge today ruled that a voter-approved amendment to decriminalize marijuana is valid. At the same time, Judge Paul Sullivan dismissed Kent County Prosecutor William Forsyth's effort to nullify the charter amendment."

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: Dogs in court: See how canine program has changed juvenile cases in West Michigan

"As a mother, Amanda found her young daughters' silence especially heartbreaking. Her girls, ages 7 and 9, had been victimized, but they struggled to share details about the crime with their mother or

investigators working on the case. The solution, it turned out, had four legs and a pair of furry, listening ears."

[Full story](#)

Legal Newsline: Mich. SC: Whistleblower law doesn't require any 'motivation' be proved

"The Michigan Supreme Court ruled last week that the state's Whistleblowers' Protection Act does not require that any 'motivation' be proved as a prerequisite to bringing a claim. 'A plaintiff's motivation is not relevant to the issue whether a plaintiff has engaged in protected activity and proof of any specific motivation is not a prerequisite to bringing a claim under the WPA,' Justice Mary Beth Kelly wrote for the court in its ruling Wednesday."

[Full story](#)

Macomb County Legal News: Justice Cavanagh honored

"The Catholic Lawyers Society (CLS) recently hosted its Annual Meeting and Brunch at The Ark at St. Ambrose in Grosse Pointe Park. After mass and during the brunch, Michigan Supreme Court Justice Michael Cavanagh was presented with the Monsignor Malloy Award, the highest honor given by the CLS. On hand to congratulate the award winner was CLS Vice President Saulius Polteraitis of Foley, Baron, Metzger, & Juip PLLC."

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: State lawmakers to discuss proposed fixes to Michigan's "broken" indigent defense system

"The State Senate Judiciary Committee takes up bills today that would greatly change Michigan's indigent defense system. James Samuels is the president of the Criminal Defense Attorneys of Michigan. He says the current system Michigan uses to provide attorneys for poor defendants is 'broken'."

[Full story](#)

Muskegon Chronicle: Muskegon attorney Terry Nolan allowed to defend murder suspect Maurice Clemons, but no one else

"Terry Joel Nolan, a prominent Muskegon County criminal-defense attorney facing a cocaine charge, has been temporarily barred from practicing law with one exception: He'll be allowed to represent a murder defendant whose trial starts next week.... The Attorney Discipline Board ruled that, with conditions, Nolan will be allowed to defend Clemons at a trial starting May 14 on a charge of open murder."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Kelly addresses Youth Law Conference

"The Oakland County Bar Association (OCBA) hosted its Youth Law Conference on Tuesday, April 23, at the MSU Management Education Center in Troy. Welcoming keynote speaker retired Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn J. Kelly were Tammy Asher, associate professor at Thomas M. Cooley Law School; Kathy Fox, director of Employer Development at Wayne State University Law School; and OCBA President Judith Cunningham."

[Full story](#)

Saginaw News: No phones allowed: Courthouse visitors in Tuscola County must leave cellphones at the door

"... [A] new policy has been put into place at the Tuscola County Courthouse in Caro that bans those entering from bringing cellphones into the building, which is home to the Tuscola County Trial Courts.... In addition to cellphones, the new policy includes laptops, tablets, and any other 'mobile electronic device.'... The decision to change the policy lists a Michigan State Supreme Court ruling from 1989, which prohibits the filming of jurors or jury selection."

[*Full story*](#)

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: New policy says cellphones not allowed in Tuscola County court — but attorneys exempt

[*Full story*](#)

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Michigan woman charged with making false report now accused of health care, financial fraud; James Grissom, convicted rapist, released from prison after authorities say Sara Ylen made it all up

"A woman in Michigan's Thumb has been charged with fraud, just days after being charged with making a false report of rape. Sara Ylen's credibility has been under scrutiny. After nearly 10 years in prison, a man convicted of raping her, James Eugene Grissom, was released last fall after authorities learned she had made up sexual-assault allegations in California."

[*Full story*](#)